

Fore cast of transportation policies.

94. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a fore-cast of their transportation policies for all of the next possible number of years?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—The roads in the State are divided into the following four classes:—

(a) Roads leading from important towns in the State to the frontiers of Travancore or British District of Malabar.

(b) Roads connecting important places within the State.

(c) Roads connecting Railway stations with the roads under (a) and (b).

(d) Roads connecting villages with roads under (a) and (b).

There are three agencies charged with the construction and maintenance of roads in the State. Roads under (a), (b) and (c) above are constructed and maintained by the P. W. D. of the State. Portions of these roads which are within Municipal limits as well as other roads which lie entirely within such limits are maintained by those bodies. As regards roads under class (d), roads involving much expenditure and construction of costly masonry works are undertaken by the P. W. D., while the others are undertaken by local bodies called Village Panchayats. The maintenance of important village roads is also seen to by the P. W. D. leaving comparatively less important ones to be maintained by the Panchayats.

Income-tax Bill—giving retrospective effect to.

95. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—In view of the great demand of funds for developments, will the Government be pleased to state whether they intend to give retrospective application to our Income-tax Bill, especially to any of its topmost grade?

Mr. U. Kandar Menon.—It is not possible to do so.

Road works—approved by Road Board.

96. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—With reference to question No. 585, dated the 31st March 1933 and its reply, will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) what action has been taken by the Government to carry out the decision of the Road Board;

(b) what is the decision of the Board; and

(c) when was it made?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) The work could not be taken up by for want of funds.